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NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS LAW, ANNOTATED, Second Edition. By Joseph D. Brannan, Bussey Professor of Law in Harvard University. Cincinnati: W. H. Anderson Company. 1911. pp. xxxiv, 330.

Nothing but good can be said by the reviewer of this book. It has been entirely rearranged since the first edition, and the numerous decisions on the Negotiable Instruments Law, since that edition was published, give material for considerable additions. As the book is now arranged, under each section of the law the searcher finds an exhaustive collection of the pertinent cases decided by the courts; a statement of the slight differences that not infrequently exist between the laws of the several states which have passed the uniform law; the acute criticisms of Professor Ames, Judge Brewster, and Mr. McKeehan, extracted from the articles in which they originally appeared; and a comparison of the corresponding section of the English statute. Not only American decisions but also the English cases are collected. As the English statute is, in many respects, similar to the American, these cases are often very important. The feature of the book that perhaps is the most valuable is the digesting of the most important cases cited. The author states exactly the facts and the points decided in each case digested, and does not take the easy and common substitute of merely quoting remarks extracted from the opinion of the court. His own occasional comments on the decisions, always acute and instructive, greatly add to their value.

The articles of Professor Ames, Judge Brewster and Mr. McKeehan, as well as a letter of Mr. Arthur Cohen, of the English Bar, are reprinted after the annotated act. Comparative tables of the corresponding sections of the English Bills of Exchange Act and the Negotiable Instruments Law are added. In every way the book is a most convenient summary of legal decisions and criticism of the Negotiable Instruments Law.

It is no disparagement of the work to add that it is not a treatise on the law of negotiable instruments. It does not purport to be. It rather assumes a preliminary knowledge of the subject. While no fault can be found with the author for not enlarging the scope of his work, the hope may nevertheless be expressed that we may have before long a full and scientific treatise on the law of negotiable instruments. The larger treatises on the subject, whatever their original merit, are now somewhat antiquated and the smaller books of recent years are too summary and incomplete in their treatment to be satisfactory.

S. W.

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SUPPLEMENT TO A TREATISE ON THE INTERSTATE COMMERCE ACT AND DIGEST OF DECISIONS CONSTRUING THE SAME. By Henry S. Drinker, Jr. Philadelphia: George T. Bisel Co. 1910. 8vo, pp. 735.

This volume is in the strictest sense a supplement to the two volumes previously published by Mr. Drinker. Those two volumes were so useful that it is a satisfaction to have an addition to them. The present volume contains a full text of the Act to Regulate Commerce, as amended by the Mann-Elkins Law of June 18, 1910, and by previous amendments, which is printed with side notes and foot notes indicating and explaining the changes made by the Mann-Elkins Law. In Part I, "The Substantive Requirements of the Act," and Part II, "The Enforcement of the Act," the various sections of the original volumes are brought down to date.

A large part of the present volume is taken up with digests of recent decisions in interstate commerce cases by the Interstate Commerce Commission, lower federal courts and the United States Supreme Court. The digests are well made and are kept within convenient compass. Appendix A contains annotations to Commission citations; Appendix B a table of commodity rates passed upon in recent cases. There is a table of the cases cited in the sup-

plement and an excellent index covering both the original treatise and the supplement.

It is to be regretted that the large number of decisions in interstate commerce cases, and the exigencies of publishers, made it necessary for this volume to be published before it was possible to know the effect of the amendments made by the Mann-Elkins Law in actual operation, but presumably Mr. Drinker will add to his book at a later time. Its value to attorneys handling interstate commerce cases would justify him in doing so. S. H. E. F.

**WILLIS AND OLIVER'S ROMAN LAW EXAMINATION GUIDE FOR BAR AND UNIVERSITY** (Questions and Answers). Third Edition, partly rewritten. By David T. Oliver, LL.M., of Trinity Hall, Cambridge, Barrister at Law, and W. Nalder Williams, M.A., LL.B., Lecturer at Selwyn College and formerly Scholar of Trinity College, Cambridge. London: Butterworth & Co. 1910. pp. x, 385, 21 (index).

Americans will be interested in this book chiefly as an indication of the sort of examination in Roman law which is exacted of candidates for the Bar in England. It is intended for students preparing for English examinations only, and is made up from questions set in actual examinations. One must not expect too much under such circumstances, and, considering the necessary limitations, the work seems to have been done well — certainly much more thoroughly and critically than is usual in such books. A student who had read carefully might well find here a useful review. But American examinations in Roman law are not of such a character as to make a book of this kind expedient, and for other uses than preparation for examination it would not be worth while. R. P.

**A TREATISE ON FEDERAL CRIMINAL LAW PROCEDURE WITH FORMS OF INDICTMENT.** By William H. Atwell. Chicago: T. H. Flood and Company. 1911. pp. 19, 452.

**BURGE'S COMMENTARIES ON COLONIAL AND FOREIGN LAWS.** In six volumes. Edited by Alexander Wood Renton and George Grenville Phillimore. London: Sweet and Maxwell, Ltd.; Stevens and Sons, Ltd. 1910. xxxviii, 420; xlv, 629; xlix, 987.

**INTRODUCTION TO THE SCIENCE OF LAW.** Systematic Survey of the Law and Principles of Legal Study. By Karl Gareis. Translated by Albert Koucourek. Boston: The Boston Book Company. 1911. pp. xxix, 375.

**THE RECORDS OF THE FEDERAL CONVENTION OF 1787.** In three volumes. Edited by Max Farrand. New Haven: Yale University Press. London: Henry Frowde. Oxford University Press. 1911. pp. xxv, 606, 667, 685.

**A TREATISE ON STATUTE LAW.** By William Fielden Craies. Second Edition. London: Stevens and Haynes. 1911. pp. ci, 725.

**REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1910.** Volume II. Washington: Government Printing Office. 1911. pp. xxvi, 663-1373.

**MANUAL OF POLITICAL ETHICS.** By Francis Lieber. In two volumes. Second Edition. Edited by Theodore D. Woolsey. Philadelphia and London: J. B. Lippincott Company. 1911. pp. 472, 459.

**ANCIENT, CURIOUS AND FAMOUS WILLS.** By Virgil M. Harris. Boston: Little, Brown and Company. 1911. pp. xiii, 472.